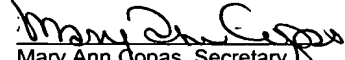




**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria VA 22313-1450 on May 28, 2004.

  
Mary Ann Copas, Secretary

Appl. No. : 09/142,452  
Applicant : Oskar K. Wack  
Filed : January 19, 1999  
TC/A.U. : 1746  
Examiner : Alexander Markoff

Customer No: 30996

**IMPORTANT**  
**Application granted SPECIAL STATUS**  
**UNDER M.P.E.P section 708.02 V**  
**Please process in accordance**  
**with SPECIAL STATUS expedited requirements**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56, Applicant wishes to call the attention of the Examiner to the following references:

1) JP 08-003592

An English translation of Japanese Laid-open Patent Publication No. 08-003592 is provided. This reference was previously submitted in an earlier Information Disclosure Statement with an English abstract.

This English translation was obtained from the Japanese Patent Office website, which is capable of preparing computer translations of some Japanese patent references. Therefore, in the interests of full disclosure, this English translation is submitted herewith.

A copy of the document is included along with the form PTO-1449.

It is respectfully requested that any fees required and not enclosed herewith or any shortages in any fees be charged to Deposit Account 02-1653.

Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

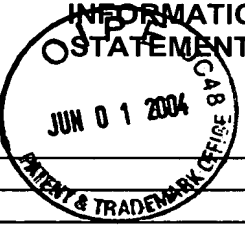
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert - Becker".

Robert W. Becker, Reg. No. 26,255  
for the Applicant

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Telefax: (505) 286-3524

RWB/mac  
Enclosures: PTO 1449 / references

	<b>Complete if Known</b>	
	<b>Application Number</b>	09/142,452
	<b>Filing Date</b>	01/19/1999
	<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Oscar K. Wack
	<b>Group Art Unit</b>	1746
	<b>Examiner Name</b>	Alexander Markoff
	<b>Attorney Docket No.</b>	

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Patent Number Pub. Number	Issue Date Pub. Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation
							Yes No
	1	JP08-003592	Not stated	Japan			X

OTHER PRIOR ART B NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS		
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	

Examiner		Date	
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05/28/04